

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A Pplatform for a device for wetting objects, especially for an incubation/hybridization chamber that is defined by an object support and by the platform arranged at a distance to said object support[[:]], said platform comprising:

a base provided with at least one spacer; and

a frame carrying ~~said~~ the base;

~~wherein the base is a bearing device movably mounted mounting the base~~
relative to the frame, ~~by means of a bearing device, that said the~~ bearing device,
operable in a first functional position, ~~maintains to maintain~~ the base in such a manner
that ~~it the base~~ projects from the frame and/or the bearing device, and operable in a
second functional position such that the base projects in project in some areas beyond
an imaginary plane ~~(E)~~ in which the surface of the base is disposed the bearing device
including a first area which is connected with the frame or, respectively, with its front
face, a second area which is connected with the base, and an elastic third area which is
arranged between the first area and the second area[[:]].

2. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the
bearing device is constructed entirely ~~consists of~~ an elastic material ~~preferably~~
~~silicone~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device is an annular bearing device~~in design~~.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the third area has a thinner wall thickness than the first area and/or the second area.

6. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the bearing device comprises a projection serving as a pipetting attachment.

7. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the base comprises at least one attachment.

8. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein at least one supply line exists to the space lying between the base and the object support.

9. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 8, wherein the at least one supply line comprises an opening provided in the surface of the base.

10. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein at least one discharge exists from the space lying between the base and the object support.

11. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 10, wherein the at least one discharge comprises an opening provided in the surface of the base.

12. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one supply line and/or the at least one discharge is closable—preferably by a membrane.

13. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to Claim 1, further comprising a holder.

14. (Currently Amended) The Pplatform according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 13, wherein the holder is pivotably connectable with a base part.

15. (Currently Amended) A Mmethod of making a device for wetting objects, specifically to form an incubation hybridization chamber, by means of a platform having a base plate provided with at least one spacer and a frame carrying said spacer and an object support, specifically by means of including a platform according to Claim 1, having the following steps the method comprising:

~~placing placement of~~ the base plate on the object support ~~by means of with~~ the frame so that the at least one spacer maintains the base plate at a distance from the object support and a laterally open space between the base plate and the object support is enclosed; and

~~exertion of exerting~~ a force on the frame of the base plate so that ~~the~~ a bearing device movably connecting the frame and the base plate lies on the surface of the object support and sealably closes the space between the base plate and the object support.

16. (New) The platform according to Claim 1, wherein the device is constructed of silicone.

17. (New) The platform according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one supply line and/or the at least one discharge is closable by a membrane.

18. (New) A method of wetting objects with a device having a platform according to claim 1, the method comprising:

operating the bearing device in the first functional position to project the base from the frame and/or the bearing device; and

operating the bearing device in the second functional position to project the base in some areas beyond an imaginary plane in which the surface of the base is disposed.

19. (New) The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

heating the reagents; and

avoiding evaporation of the reagents when the reagents are heated.

20. (New) A platform for a device for wetting objects, especially for an incubation/hybridization chamber that is defined by an object support and by the platform arranged at a distance to said object support, said platform comprising;

a base provided with at least one spacer, the at least one spacer defining a space between the base and the object support;

a frame carrying the base; and

a bearing device movably mounting the base relative to the frame, the bearing device operable in a first functional position, to maintain the base such that the base projects from the frame and/or the bearing device, and operable in a second functional position such that the base projects some areas beyond an imaginary plane in which the surface of the base is disposed.

21. (New) The platform for a device for wetting objects of Claim 20, wherein the bearing device sealably closes the space between the base plate and the object support.